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## **Governor Announces Creation of Governor's Homeland Security Council**

Governor Jim Doyle announced today the creation of a Governor's Homeland Security Council to coordinate and direct the state's efforts to prevent and respond to potential attacks in Wisconsin.

"At this difficult hour for our state and our country, we must take every step in our power to protect the people of Wisconsin and to support our troops. And we are," Doyle said. "But in the new environment, I believe we need greater coordination among the various state agencies responsible for preventing and responding to potential attacks against Wisconsin."

"Today, I am issuing an Executive Order creating the Governor's Homeland Security Council," Doyle said. "This Council will be charged with coordinating and directing the operations of our state as we work with federal and local officials to prevent and respond to any threat to our security."

The Governor appointed Major General Albert Wilkening, Adjutant General of the Wisconsin National Guard, to chair the council and serve as the Governor's Homeland Security Advisor.

Other members of the council include:

- Ed Gleason, Administrator of Wisconsin Emergency Management
- Jim Warren, Administrator of the Division of Criminal Investigation in the Department of Justice
- Ken Baldwin, Administrator and state health officer in the Division of Public Health at the Department of Health and Family Services
- Mike Metcalf, Chief of the Wisconsin State Capitol Police
- Dave Steingraber, Executive Director of the Office of Justice Assistance
- David Collins, Superintendent of the Wisconsin State Patrol

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The Governor and the State of Wisconsin have already been in communication with federal officials, including Secretary Tom Ridge and the Department of Homeland Security, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the Secret Service, the CIA, and the FBI.

Governor Doyle is directing the Council to take the following actions:

1. Coordinate the efforts of state and local agencies who have responsibility over homeland security efforts.
2. Coordinate state efforts with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, FEMA, FBI and other local and federal agencies.
3. Coordinate law enforcement and intelligence gathering efforts of local and state agencies.
4. Advise local governments as the Council becomes aware of heightened threat assessments, and assist the public in understanding what these often complex security designations mean.
5. Serve as a resource to assist local governments in developing plans to identify and protect critical assets in their communities.
6. Make recommendations to the Governor and to local governments on what additional steps are necessary to further enhance Wisconsin's homeland security.

Despite the threat of war in Iraq, Doyle encouraged all Wisconsin residents to continue to go about their daily lives.

"If we paralyze ourselves with fear, then we are handing the terrorists a victory they could not achieve on their own," Doyle said. "It is our duty as Americans to be prepared, but also to stand tall in defiance of those who would take away our freedom."